



Indiana Department of Revenue

Motor Carrier Services Division

Indiana Trucking Tips



December 2003
Volume 7, Issue 4

Motor Carrier Calendar Notes

January 31, 2004

Fourth quarter Intrastate Motor Carrier Fuel Tax (Form MCFT-101 available on our website at www.in.gov/dor/mcs/formlist.html#mc) and Interstate International Fuel Tax Agreement (IFTA-101) returns are due.

January 31, 2004

Claims for Proportional Use Credit (Form MCS-1789 available on our website at www.in.gov/dor/mcs/formlist.html#mc) are due.

State Holidays

Our offices will be closed on the following dates in observance of state holidays:

Christmas

Thursday & Friday, December 25 & 26, 2003

New Year's Day

Thursday, January 1, 2004

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Monday, January 19, 2004

Good Friday

Friday, April 9, 2004

Indiana Department of Revenue
Motor Carrier Services
5252 Decatur Boulevard, Suite R
Indianapolis, IN 46241
(317) 615-7200
www.in.gov/dor

Online IRP Registration Rolled Out by Indiana Department of Revenue

We are pleased to announce that motor carrier companies already registered in Indiana for the International Registration Plan (IRP) can now conduct much of their business online with the Indiana Department of Revenue's Motor Carrier Services Division.

This exciting new Internet program allows you to process vehicle renewals and transactions, obtain temporary permits, make transaction payments and print out valid cab cards and permits immediately.

Customers may now also pay for their transactions via IN-ePay, either with e-Check (flat \$1.00 fee per payment transaction), or with a credit card.

Motor carriers with an active Indiana IRP account may register for this quick and easy online service by going to the Department's Web site, www.in.gov/dor/, and clicking on the link.

Carriers who prefer to file via paper, either by mail or in person, may continue to do so.

Online services will be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week and are expected to reduce significantly the number of temporary permit requests for "add vehicle" and "replacement plate" transactions, which require manual processing and mailing by Department personnel.

Since the electronic process increases the speed of obtaining credentials via Internet processing, the Indiana 60-Day Temporary Registration Permit has been reduced to 45 days.



Blood Pressure Guidelines Change per FMCSA Final Rule

Effective September 30, 2003, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) information regarding blood pressure on medical examination forms has been revised. This revision incorporates the recommendations on hypertension included in a report prepared for FMCSA, entitled "Cardiovascular Advisory Panel Guidelines for the Medical Examination of Commercial Motor Vehicle Drivers" (October 2002). You can view this document at: www.fmcsa.dot.gov/rulesregs/medreports.htm.

The change in federal regulations allows you to continue to use the current physical examination forms until September 6, 2004.

You will find that the new instructions for dealing with high blood pressure and the corresponding guidelines printed on the exam form are simply recommendations to the medical examiner.

"Blood Pressure [BP]. If a driver has hypertension and/or is being medicated for hypertension, he or she should be recertified more frequently. An individual diagnosed with Stage 1 hypertension (BP is 140/90—159/99) may be certified for one year. At recertification, an individual with a BP equal to or less than 140/90 may be certified for one year; however, if his or her BP is greater than 140/90 but less than 160/100, a one-time certificate for 3 months can be issued. An individual diagnosed with Stage 2 (BP is 160/100—179/109) should be treated and a one-time three-month certificate can be issued. Once the driver has reduced his or her BP to equal or less than 140/90, he or she may be recertified annually thereafter. An individual diagnosed with Stage 3 hypertension (BP equal to or greater than 180/110) should not be certified until his or her BP is reduced to 140/90 or less, and may be certified every 6 months."

These guidelines represent the agency's summary of current medical practice/thinking, but are neither part of the medical standard for blood pressure (391.41 (b)(6), nor binding on the medical examiner.

Motor Carrier Services will be revising the current medical form to reflect the changes and begin auditing US DOT physicals based on the new federal guidelines, **effective September 6, 2004**. If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact the CDL help desk at (317) 615-7335.

TSA Delays Implementation of USA Patriot Act

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has issued an amendment delaying implementation of the USA Patriot Act requirement for security threat assessments on individuals applying for, renewing, or transferring a Hazardous Materials Endorsement (HME) on a Commercial Drivers License. In the amendment, TSA has moved to April 1, 2004 the date on which fingerprint-based criminal history record checks are to begin. In addition, the amendment states that a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking will be issued shortly to address the criminal history background check, as well as the entire security threat assessment process for HME applicants.

By April 1, 2004, states must be collecting biographical and criminal history information and submitting fingerprints to TSA. The fingerprint collection must be accomplished in a manner consistent with FBI procedures. States not able to meet this deadline must request an extension from TSA; however, no extensions will be granted beyond December 1, 2004.

For further information and to see the amendment, go to the TSA web site, www.tsa.gov/public, or the DOT docket management system web site, <http://dms.dot.gov/search>, Docket # TSA-2003-14610.

FMCSA's Decision to Issue Exemptions to Certain Insulin-Using Diabetic Drivers' of Commercial Motor Vehicles (CMV)

Effective September 3, 2003, qualified insulin-treated diabetic drivers may now request a diabetic exemption from the regulations of 49CFR 391.41(b)(3) by sending an exemption request to:

Diabetes Exemption Program (MC-PSP)
Office of Bus and Truck Standards and Operations
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street S.W.

Washington, DC 20590-0001
Telephone Number (202) 366-4001

FMCSA will grant exemptions only to individuals who meet all conditions. Some criteria for qualifying under this exemption are:

- You must possess a valid intrastate CDL or a license (non-CDL) to operate a CMV.
- You must have operated a CMV with a diabetic condition controlled by the use of insulin for the three-year period immediately preceding the application.
- You must have a driving record for that three year period that:
 - Contains no suspensions or revocations;
 - Contains no involvement in an accident for which you contributed to the cause of the accident; and
 - Contains no convictions for a disqualifying offense or more than one serious traffic violation.

FMCSA will grant exemptions to those applicants who meet the specific conditions and comply with all the requirements of the exemption. FMCSA will issue exemptions for not more than two years.

For more information regarding the insulin exemption go to <http://dms.dot.gov>, Docket #9800.